

CHERRY HOME NEWS

Cherry Home Association, PO Box 745, Northport, MI 49670
www.cherryhomeshores.com



President's Corner

By David Schmidtke

Summer departed rather abruptly, but we are looking forward to a gorgeous autumn color season. Our Association social calendar is abbreviated this season because folks have not volunteered to run or assist in running events. That is OK as long as that is really what members want. We, the board, want to do what members want and reflect their interests. Fortunately we did get to repair the South Park walkway and remark the trails. Our pig roast was another success. Construction continues throughout CHA and as usual there are lots of "For Sale" signs. I enjoy watching the families use the roads and facilities during the summer and reflect back when our family came here during the summer months. Of course they are all grown now and return with their children.

We are always interested in CHA member's views and of course welcome your views and help.

You can contact me through the web site.

BIG THANKS TO:

Kristine Irvine for providing the flowers and maintenance at the entrance sign, clubhouse flower pots, and announcement board flowers. Also to Deb Serwin for doing such a good job at keeping the hanging flowers at the announcement board watered and Sherry Smith for doing the same at the clubhouse. Wendy Jacobson helped Kristine with the flowers too. These flowers add a great deal to the enjoyment of the subdivision. Thanks again.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

President's Corner	1
Road Improvement	1
Parks and Trails	2
Board Elections	3
Bylaws Update	3
Building or Improve	3
Wine Tasting-Dinner	4
Property Taxes	4

Road Improvement Update

At a Leelanau Township board meeting on August 15, 2006, both the Township Board and County Road Commission slammed our subdivision road-rebuilding project by withdrawing their financial support for the road project. This came as a big shock to the CHA board members who attended the meeting, since both government agencies had pledged their financial support earlier in the year. The two agencies gave very little reason for reversing their decision to provide financial support to our subdivision. This is a blow to our residents and property owners, especially in view of the fact that county voters recently approved a special county millage for the road commission and township voters approved a special township projects millage. This essentially kills the road improvement project for Cherry Home Shores. We will continue to press forward for road improvements, which the road commission says are possible and cost effective. The future remains uncertain.

Parks and Trails Committee Report

By Chuck Whetsel

Whether you still have the nose to the old grindstone or you are retired, North Leelanau Peninsula, at Cherry Home, is a beautiful place to be. We have a variety of recreational resources in Cherry Home. We share beautiful beach areas at the North Park, Central Park and South Park Common areas. We have a network of beautiful trails we share with our animal friends, and we have Tennis, Volley Ball, a playground, and more beaches at the Club House. These facilities are here for your enjoyment and therefore it is important that they be maintained. To maintain and improve these resources, at a minimum of cost, we rely on volunteers to help with much of the work. From the beautiful flowers at the entrance, to mowing the grass at the clubhouse, all are done by fellow CHA members. Please consider giving your time. .

The Parks and Trails Committee is focused this fall and next summer on enhancements to Central Park, better signage on our trails, and restoration of the playground and swing areas at the Clubhouse.

The committee members, Kristine Irvine, Garth Barrett, Mary Barrett, Scott Crilly, Doug Crilly, Ray Glasel, Janet Whetsel, and Chuck Whetsel had a work session in August to develop plans for Central Park enhancements. Key proposals include a picnic pavilion, barbeques, and a game area like Bocce Ball or Horse Shoes. Also recommended were some benches facing the beach to observe the wetland like natural area



abundant with birds. There is also a need to address the invasive plant life on the shoreline. This proposal has been presented to the Board of Directors for funding and approval. The Board has requested estimates and will address the proposal during the next budget cycle. Also discussed is the potential for private donations, memorials etc. as potential funding. Kristine Irvine is spearheading the Central Park effort.

New signage (trail markers) has been installed on all trails. The South Trail Entrance/Exit to the Middle Entrance/Exit are red markers. The trail markers to the North Entrance/Exit are Green, and the trail markers to the Far North Entrance/Exit are blue. Small kiosk type signs will be installed this fall at all entrance/exits as well as at trail intersections with color coded maps.

Weed control, restoration of picnic tables and benches, and new sand are a few of the enhancements in progress at the Clubhouse area. There is a proposal to enhance/enlarge the playground equipment.

We would like your time and your feedback on all of these projects. Contact Chuck Whetsel at 386-5503 or Trailmaster@cherryhomeshores.com and volunteer today.



Board Elections

Don Walworth is chair of the Nominating Committee. The committee will be nominating candidates to fill the three board positions that will be up for election at the 2007 annual membership meeting.

Linda Van Emst and Neil Barnett, current board members, have indicated they will not run again next spring. That leaves vacancies for two new members. These are busy jobs, but are important to the development and well being of the CHA subdivision. These positions are for three years. We typically meet once per month from April through November and then additionally as needed. Each board member takes responsibility for some area of activity such as social, grounds, architecture, treasurer, etc. Using email is quite useful as a board member.

If you think you might be interested please complete a Candidate Profile and get it to Don. Blank profile forms can be obtained from Don or can be downloaded from our web site.

The Association needs your input, so if you are interested or know someone else who may be interested in serving on the board, please contact Don at 231-386-9488 for more details.

Dues Increase

The last dues increase was in 2000 for \$35. Since then, operating costs have increased and our reserve funds have decreased. Because of these factors, the board has decided to increase the dues for next year to the allowable \$45 per lot. This increase will be reflected in next spring's invoices.

Bylaws Revision Being Studied

The CHA bylaws were written in 1976 and were last amended in 2000. If you have read them, you will know they are somewhat outdated and some of the language in them is difficult to read and interpret. The board has formed a committee to review the bylaws and recommend modifications that incorporate plain language and flow sequentially.

The plan is for the board to review the committee recommended changes and then prepare a synopsis and present the recommended changes to the entire membership for vote at next year's annual membership meeting in May.

Building or Improving?

Are you planning on building a new home or expanding your existing one? If so, you need to submit the plans to the Architectural Committee for review and approval in accordance with the Deed Restrictions, Article Vi, section 1. The requirements also covers storage buildings, sheds and fences.



You can view the entire Deed Restrictions at our web site. You can contact the architectural committee by email at architect@cherryhomeshores.com or call someone on the CHA Board of Directors.



A Bit About Taxes

We posed the question to Leelanau Township Treasurer as to how much Cherry Home Shores members pay in taxes. This is a measure of our financial importance to county and township governments. Property within CHA has an assessed value of \$33.9 million and a taxable value of \$21 million. Taxes for the winter 2005 billing were \$144,313 and summer 2006 were \$477,550, for a total of \$621,823.

We're on the Web!

Visit us at:

www.cherryhomeshores.com

Wine Tasting & Harvest Dinner

The Whetsel's and Schmidtke's are hosting a Cherry Home Association Harvest Dinner and Wine Tasting on Saturday November 4 at 6:00 PM in the clubhouse. Dinner will follow the wine tasting and there will be ham and turkey provided. Please bring a bottle of wine for the tasting, your own table service and a dish to pass. After the blind wine tasting the couple that brought the favorite wine, as judged by those present, will get a prize. Please RSVP to Janet and Chuck Whetsel, 386-5503, by Monday October 30th. Hope to see you there.

Cherry Home Association
 P O Box 745
 Northport, MI 49670



Mailing label